

# TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE



**Priority Actions: 2017 and Beyond**

# STATE OF EMERGENCY

## Executive Department State of California

### PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS** the State of California is experiencing record drought conditions, which have persisted for the last four years; and

**WHEREAS** on January 17, 2014, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist throughout the State of California due to severe drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS** a lack of precipitation over the last four years has made trees in many regions of California susceptible to epidemic infestations of native bark beetles, which are constrained under normal circumstances by the defense mechanisms of healthy trees; and

**WHEREAS** these drought conditions and resulting bark beetle infestations across broad areas have caused vast tree mortality in several regions of the state, with the United States Forest Service estimating that over 22 million trees are dead and that tens of millions more are likely to die by the end of this year; and

**WHEREAS** recent scientific measurements suggest that the scale of this tree die-off is unprecedented in modern history; and

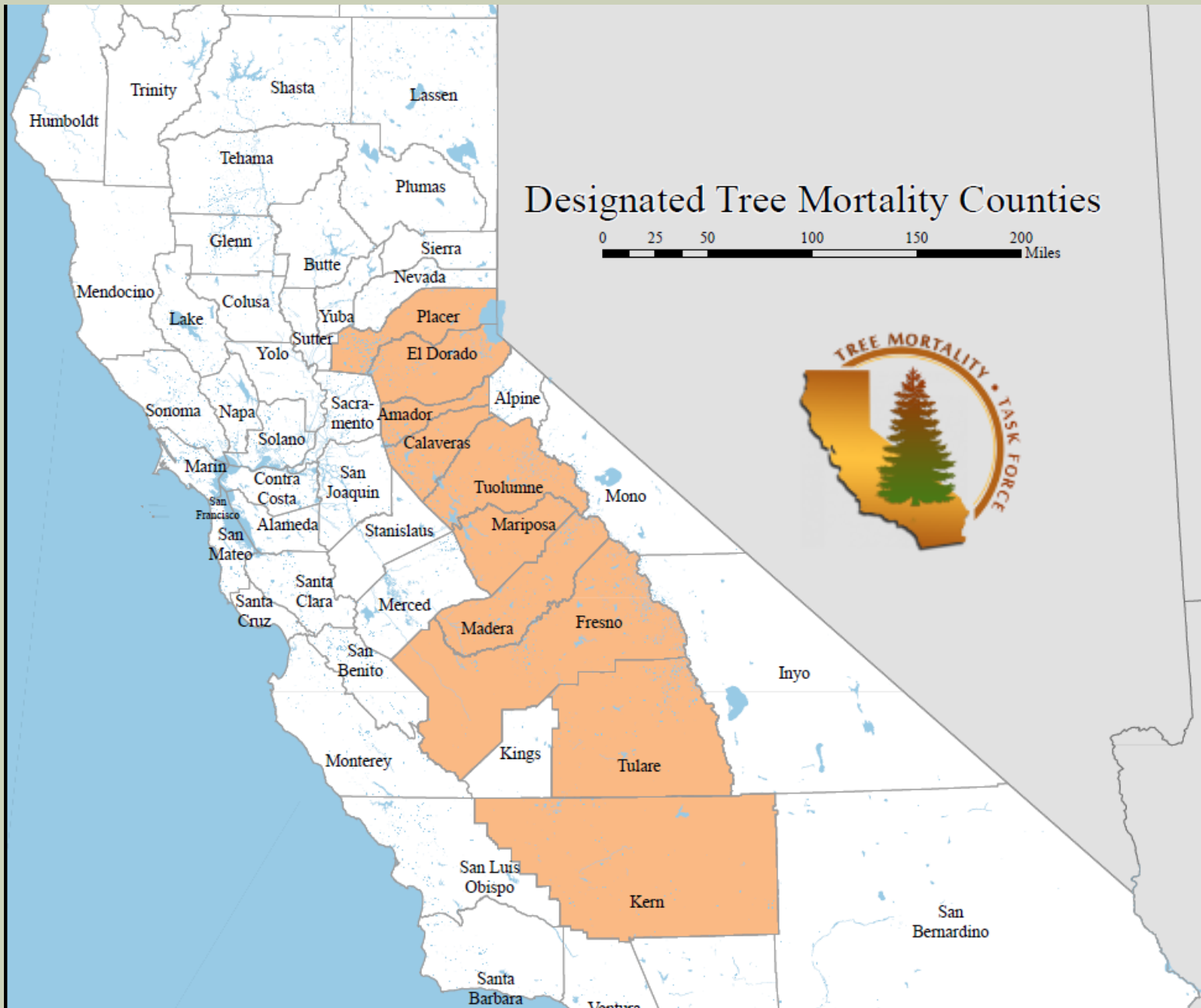
# TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE

- 19 DIRECTIVES
- 80 ENTITIES
- 10 COUNTIES



## Designated Tree Mortality Counties

0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles





# TMTF LEADERSHIP



**Task Force Chairs:** CAL FIRE Director Pimlott, OES Director Jon Moore, & the Governor's Office

**Task Force Leaders:**

Gabriel Schultz

Rick Carr

**Liaison Officers:**

CSAC

RCRC

CAL FIRE





**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

## TREE MORTALITY TASK FORCE



In Response to the State of  
Emergency Proclamation



Incident Action Plan

2016

[www.treetaskforce.org](http://www.treetaskforce.org)

Updated September 20, 2016

# MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES



- Provide for public health and safety
- Coordination among agencies/entities implementing the Governor's directives
- Ensure continuous communications among organizations assigned to the task force
- Provide consistent and coordinated messaging between TMTF and the public
- Manage projects in an efficient manner.

# TMTF WORKING GROUPS

- Mapping & Monitoring
- Public Outreach
- Resource Allocation
- Utilization- Bioenergy
- Utilization – Market Development
- Forest Health & Resilience
- Regulations

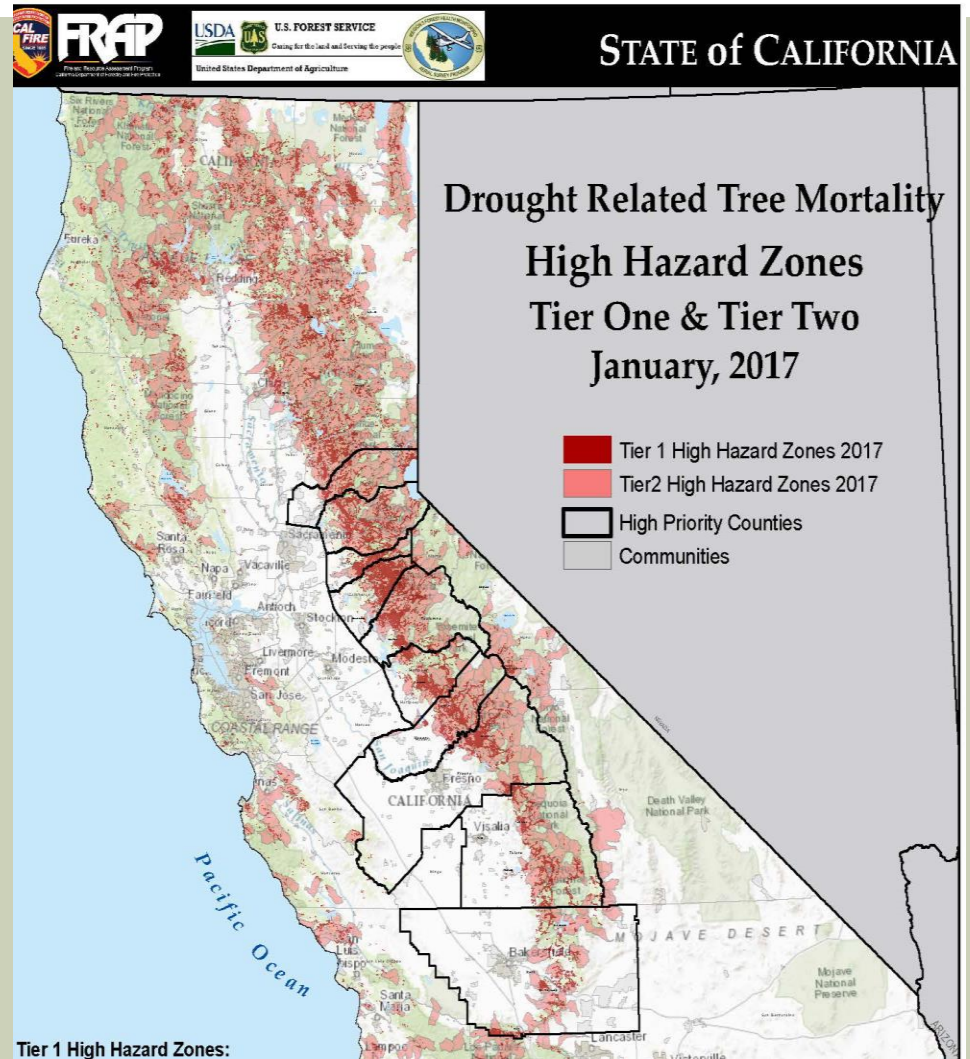




# MAPPING & MONITORING



- Identify HHZs
- Project Tracking
- Mapping:
  - Storage & utilization locations
  - Mortality Trends
  - HHZs
- *Tree Mortality: Facts and Figures*



# PUBLIC OUTREACH

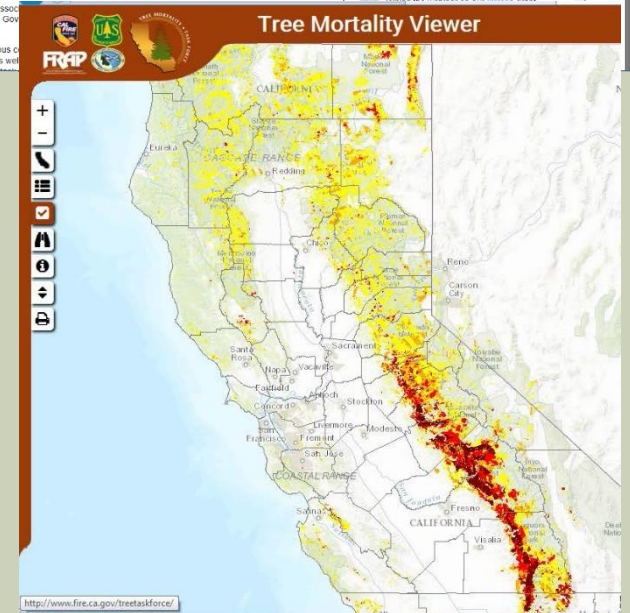
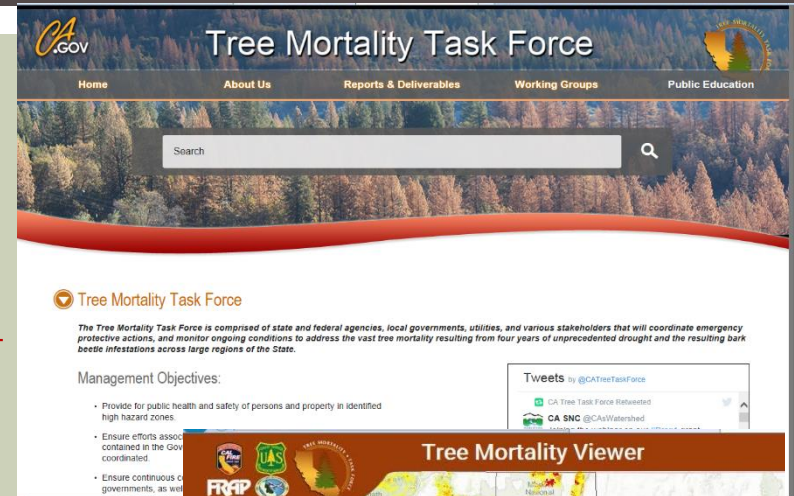
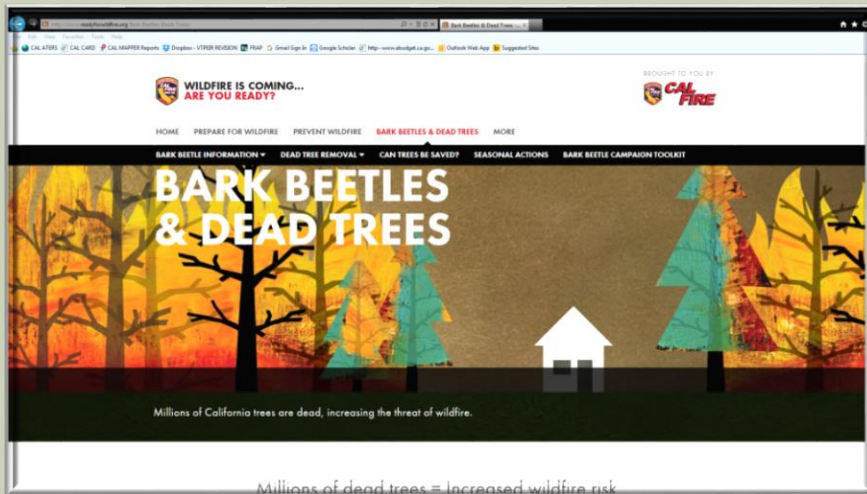


## ■ Websites

- [www.treetaskforce.org](http://www.treetaskforce.org)
- Tree Mortality Viewer Overview  
<http://egis.fire.ca.gov/TreeMortalityViewer>

## ■ Landowner assistance

- [www.prepareforbarkbeetle.org](http://www.prepareforbarkbeetle.org)





# RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Coordinate efforts with local entities to remove dead or dying trees in high hazard zones that threaten power lines, roads and other evacuation corridors, critical community infrastructure, and other existing structures.





# UTILIZATION – BIOENERGY



- Extend contracts on existing forest bioenergy facilities receiving feedstock from high hazard zones (CPUC).
- Prioritize grant funding from the Electric Program Investment Charge for woody biomass-to-energy technology, consistent with direction from CPUC (CEC).
- Work with land managers to estimate biomass feedstock availability, storage locations, and volumes that may be available for use as bioenergy feedstock at existing and new facilities.
- Identify and develop new energy technologies for biomass (e.g. biofuels, etc).
- Create and expand markets for bioenergy by-products (e.g. biochar, heat, etc).



# UTILIZATION – MARKET DEVELOPMENT

- Determine the feasibility for expanded wood product markets in California.
- Provide for highest and best use of wood products.
- Identify and develop new technologies for biomass products (laminated wood products, etc.)
- Identify rules or regulations which may block the development of a utilization market.



# FOREST HEALTH & RESILIENCE



- Evaluate resource impacts associated tree removal.
- Provide guidelines for how to achieve long-term forest health and resilience.
  - “Recommendations for Comprehensive Sierra Nevada Ecological Restoration.”
- Expand the collection of seed from mortality impacted seed zones.
  - Seed zone map
- Develop a reforestation plan for HHZs.





# REGULATIONS

- Explore barriers and solutions to homeowner insurance in HHZs
- Identify regulatory hurdles relating to Air Curtain Incinerator emissions
- Temporary log storage and processing facilities siting guidance
- *Guidelines for High Hazard Zone Tree Removal*



# ACTION ITEMS – LOOKING AHEAD



## ■ Public Safety

- Provide for public health and safety of persons and property in high hazard zones

## ■ Mapping and Monitoring

- Continue to identify, quantify, and locate tree mortality

## ■ Utilization and Market Exploration

- Identify Outlets for Hazardous Trees Being Removed

## ■ Funding Opportunities

- Seek additional Federal, State and Community support



# ACTION ITEMS – LOOKING AHEAD



- Engage Private Landowners
  - Provide technical expertise to impacted landowners
- Cooperation and Collaboration
  - Maintain cooperation and collaboration across federal, state, and local governments and agencies
- Continue Broad Support of County Efforts
  - Identify and address impediments to local actions

Core to this effort is **supporting** County TMTFs

# COOPERATION & COLLABORATION

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